

From: KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 11/16/2012 8:36:37 AM

To: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
CC: Steve Platt
Subject: Re: Fwd: Fracking Questions

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Karen D. Johnson, Chief
Ground Water & Enforcement Branch

From: Dave **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
To: KarenD Johnson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Steve Platt/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/15/2012 02:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fracking Questions

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Date: November 15, 2012, 1:38:06 PM EST
To: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Subject: Fracking Questions

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I understand Jim gave you a heads up that I'd be emailing you. I write because I'm currently drafting a paper on water contamination in fracking for natural gas. Being a senior in college, I've written a lot of papers on a lot of things. But I've never found an issue that inspires such black and white viewpoints. I have a basic understanding of how fracking works and how each side argues their case for or against the practice, but finding a more or less impartial source to dissect these arguments has been difficult.

As a Western PA EPA employee, I figured you'd be a great source on the matter. My main question for you is do you feel water contamination is a systemic threat from fracking for natural gas? If so, what regulations would you recommend to ensure safety (if safety can be achieved at all)? If not, what are some of the specific circumstances that lead to groundwater contamination? In other words, what made places like Dimock, PA or Pavillion, Wyoming atypical? And should fracking be banned on places with those geological characteristics?

Thank you very much for your time answering my questions. I sincerely appreciate your time.

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